

Remarks

I. Status of Application

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner indicating that the captioned application is in condition for allowance, other than with respect to several informalities identified in the Office Action.

II. Status of Claims

Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the Listing of Claims transmitted herewith. In Applicants' previous response, filed October 30, 2007, Applicants canceled claims 4 and 6-20, without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, upon entry of Applicants' previous amendment to the claims, claims 1-3 and 5 were pending in the application. Thus, notwithstanding the instant Office Action Summary, wherein claims 1-5 are indicated as pending in the application and are allowed, claims 1-3 and 5 in fact represent the allowed claims. Applicants have amended claim 1 herein to include consistent use of subscript notation in R_1 , R_2 , A_1 , and A_2 .

III. Status of the Specification

The Examiner has objected to the disclosure in light of several informalities, and has indicated that "[a]ppropriate correction is required." On Page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner specifically states, *inter alia*, as follows:

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On page 1 line 5, the status of application '539 should be updated to include the issued patent. On page 18 line 27 "Na₂SO₄" should be changed to "Na₂SO₄". See line 18 in comparison. In line 28 "in vacuo" should be italicized. On page 25 line 28, does "CAT" refer to catalase? From the description on page 23, it appears that applicants are referring to this enzyme. If so, the acronym should be defined as such on page 25 line 28.

In response to the Examiner's objections, Applicants have amended the specification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b), as required by the Examiner, thereby i) indicating the

issuance of U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 10/131,539 as U.S. Pat. No. 6,716,882 on page 1, line 5; ii) consistently referring to Na_2SO_4 on page 18, line 27; iii) expressing in vacuo as *in vacuo* on page 18, line 28; and iv) defining the acronym "CAT" on page 20, line 28 as referring to the enzyme, chloramphenicol acetyltransferase. Applicants respectfully point out that, since the acronym "CAT" is not shown on page 25, line 28, as indicated by the Examiner, Applicants believe the Examiner meant to point to the acronym "CAT" as occurring on page 20, line 28. Therefore, Applicants have amended the specification accordingly.

In view of the above, Applicants believe that the Examiner's objections to the disclosure have been overcome, and respectfully request that they be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the instant *Ex parte Quayle* Action and, as such, that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Response and Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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